

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to without amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, concurrent resolutions of the House of the following titles:

H. Con. Res. 131. Concurrent resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to engrave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the National Motto of "In God we trust" in the Capitol Visitor Center.

H. Con. Res. 135. Concurrent resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to place a marker in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1007. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a limited 6-month period for Federal judges to opt into the Judicial Survivors' Annuities System and begin contributing toward an annuity for their spouse and dependent children upon their death, and for other purposes.

S. 1289. An act to improve title 18 of the United States Code.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

## DREAM ACT AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, last week, hundreds of thousands of people throughout the country, many of whom were in Colorado, picked up their phones and called Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano to ask her to delay the deportation of a young man from Miami, Florida, Walter Lara.

Let me tell you a little bit about Walter. Walter moved to the United States from Argentina when he was 3 years old, and he has never left. He has dedicated thousands of hours to serving his community, tutoring children in mathematics and computers. He stood out in high school as an honor student and graduated from Miami Dade Honors College in 2007. But instead of following his dream and pursuing a promising career in computer animation and Web design, Walter's graduation gift was an imminent deportation order.

Walter was scheduled to be deported over the 4th of July weekend, but thanks to a week of intense activism by congressional leaders, the SEIU, bloggers, and thousands of grass-roots activists who made calls and sent letters on Walter Lara's behalf, the Department of Homeland Security moved to defer 23-year-old Lara's scheduled deportation back an entire year until July 3 of 2010.

While I was thrilled to hear that Walter's deportation has been delayed and he would be able to stay in the United States, this action alone is far from enough. What will happen to Walter in 2010 if we don't pass comprehensive immigration reform? What does it mean for the hundreds of thousands of Walters throughout the country who came to the United States as children, excelled in school, played by the rules, only to face deportation?

Despite meeting State residency requirements, immigrant students in most States are charged out-of-state or international tuition rates which effectively render college inaccessible. These kids, Mr. Speaker, are as American as anybody else, but for far too long they have had their dreams shattered by an education system that ignores their good grades and hard work.

Educational opportunity is a right, and something that we are all taught that if you work hard in this country and you don't give up, you can achieve anything. But the doors to opportunity have been shut for thousands of hard-working students who have been raised and educated in our country.

Even though Walter was able to stay, the U.S. Government deports thousands of students just like Walter and will continue to do so until we pass the DREAM Act as part of comprehensive immigration reform. The DREAM Act will ensure that children who have grown up in the United States and studied in American schools can remain here and work and pay taxes and live in our country.

Under the American DREAM Act, qualified students would be eligible for temporary legal immigration status upon high school graduation that could lead to permanent legal residency if they attend college or serve in the military.

Students like Walter are our greatest natural resource, and they should have access to higher education, the key to both individual success and our Nation's economic growth and prosperity.

I recently had the opportunity to visit an immigrant detention facility in Aurora, Colorado. These are young people, people of all ages, who are picked up. They might have broken the speed limit, they might have a tail-light out on their car, they might simply have been loitering, and now, with taxpayer money, we are putting them up at \$120 a day of our hard-earned money rather than them being out working and paying taxes to reduce our deficit.

Mr. Speaker, in this era of budget deficit, putting Walter and people like

him in a government hotel that taxpayers are paying for for \$120 a day makes absolutely no sense when Walter would rather be out working and paying taxes to help reduce our deficit.

To help the hundreds of thousands of Walters across the country, now is the time to pass comprehensive immigration reform, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

## WE NEED TO CUT TAXES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the people of this country many times get so frustrated because they think that we here in Congress don't hear them, we don't listen to them. I have a couple of letters here I would like to read into the RECORD—at least part of them—so that my colleagues in the House can get some flavor for what the people in mid-America are thinking right now.

This letter is from a lady named Emmaline P. Henn in Huntington, Indiana. And she says: "Dear Congressman Burton, it was great to hear you and speak with you at Huntington's Lincoln Day Dinner, but we want to stress the things we said then. We do have confidence in you"—which I really appreciate.

She says: "We are appalled by what is happening in Washington. Now in our 80s, we have seen many administrations; none has been as frightening as this one. In less than 6 months, President Obama and his team have drawn the U.S. Government deep into private business. The government's business is governing, not business.

"There is no doubt the President and his team have taken us far on the road to socialism, so far that we fear there may be no return. Their spending is out of this world, and it will not save the economy.

"In the long run, bailouts don't work. The health care issue, the credit card issue, the card check issue, and more, are taking us far from free enterprise and are causing many citizens to give up on self-reliance and responsibility in favor of relying on the government. There is little incentive for talented people to innovate, work hard, and create business. What a terrible lesson.

"We pray you fight for this movement. At the same time, we pray you will support keeping the United States safe in every way you possibly can."

You can hear the frustration in this lady by the way her letter sounds. But then there is another one here from a